In a Nut Shell

Capsule reviews of forthcoming books.

OLIVER STONE
By Bob Woodward

With all the investigative skills for which he is known, Woodward uncovers the truth about the Academy Award-winning director. It turns out that not only is his real name Shmul Liebowitz but there are in fact three separate "Oliver Stones"—which accounts for "his" great productivity and diverse themes. (One works on the war-themed films, "Salvador," "Platoon" and "Born on the Fourth of July"; another directs the investigative "Wall Street" and "JFK," while the third did "The Doors" and the early "The Hand.") Among other gems, Woodward discovers where the pseudonym "Oliver Stone" comes from: It's a combination of young Shmul's love of justice through Oliver Wendell Holmes, and his sense of anarchy, as derived via Bob Dylan and the song, "Like a Rolling Stone."

—Robert J. Elisberg

Next: *"Kuwaiting for Godot," by Pat Buchanan.*

CA Times Book Review 8/30/92